

Approaches towards Influenza Vaccine

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DESCRIPTION

Influenza viruses still constitute a true public health problem today. The influenza pandemic was first isolated for the primary time in 1918, and therefore the first attempts to develop a vaccine against the virus began soon afterwards. Additionally to causing seasonal epidemics, influenza viruses can cause pandemics randomly intervals, which are very hard to predict. Vaccination is that the best way of preventing the spread of influenza infection. However, seasonal vaccination is ineffective against pandemic influenza viruses due to antigenic differences, and it takes approximately six months from isolation of a replacement virus to develop an efficient vaccine. To deal with the emergence of latest circulating strains, but also the emergence of resistant strains to classic antivirals, it's necessary to develop new antiviral approaches. One among the possible ways to fight the emergence of pandemics could also be by employing a new sort of vaccine, with an extended and broad spectrum of action. The extracellular domain of the matrix protein 2 (M2e) of Influenza pandemic may be a conservative region, and a beautiful target for a universal influenza vaccine.

As for therapeutic approaches, the event of prophylactic approaches against hypervariable pathogens should be focused on multiple targets/epitopes. However, within the case of vaccines, the spectrum of possible targets is reduced when considering protection because the final goal. Viral surface Hemagglutinin (HA) and Neuraminidase (NA) antigens are the most immune targets of most influenza vaccines. On the opposite hand, approaches directed towards multiple targets are difficultly escaped by the pathogen. This is often evident when considering the therapeutic approaches against Finally, multiple B-cell epitopes, at the extent of the HA head region (including the receptor binding site), also as of the stem region, can neutralize the virus and confer protection.

Thus, an influenza vaccine eliciting a better spectrum of protective antibodies might be simpler and hamper the occurrence of possible drift variants, compared to those supported one region/epitope. Subsequent few years are going to be an exciting time as vaccine supported stem and globular head of the HA move from pre-clinical to clinical studies. The foremost promising vaccines under development will enter within the clinical evaluation within the next 5 years.

These clinical studies could represent the ultimate testbed of their effectiveness by demonstrating their possible ability to guard people against co-circulating influenza strains from multiple subtypes compared to currently available commercial vaccines. Especially, they're going to provide a more complete understanding of their effect during a pre-immune context in humans, also because the ability to know the biomarkers and therefore the molecular signatures linked to protection in humans.

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